



ISSUE IN FOCUS

U.S. EMBASSY LINCOLN RESOURCE CENTER



May 2012

President Barack Obama: Generations of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) have helped make America what it is today. Their histories recall bitter hardships and proud accomplishments -- from the laborers who connected our coasts one-and-a-half centuries ago, to the patriots who fought overseas while their families were interned at home, from those who endured the harsh conditions of Angel Island, to the innovators and entrepreneurs who are driving our Nation's economic growth in Silicon Valley and beyond. Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month offers us an opportunity to celebrate the vast contributions Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have made to our Nation, reflect on the challenges still faced by AAPI communities, and recommit to making the American dream a reality for all. [Full text of President Obama's Proclamation of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month](#)

ARTICLES & REPORTS

[Asians Are Fastest-Growing Racial Group in U.S.](#)
IIP Digital. March 2012

[U.S. Census Bureau report](#) released in March 2012 said people in the U.S. population who trace 100 percent of their origins back to Asia numbered 14.7 million in the 2010 census, while people who said their Asian heritage was mixed with one or more other races numbered 2.6 million. Combined, the two categories totaled 17.3 million, accounting for 5.6 percent of the U.S. population. Their numbers grew by 45.6 percent from 2000 to 2010, compared to 9.7 percent growth for the overall population.

[U.S. Colleges Embrace Asian American Studies](#)
IIP Digital. March 2012.

Asian American Studies, an academic curriculum that looks at the experiences and contributions of the United States' fastest-growing racial group, is expanding to more

and more U.S. campuses. The field is also evolving as the nation's Asian-American and Pacific Islander population becomes increasingly diverse. Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (alone or in combination with other races) make up nearly 6 percent of the U.S. population, and their numbers are growing faster than those of any other racial group. They constitute 7 percent of the U.S. college student population.

[Winning the Future: President Obama's Agenda and the Asian American and Pacific Islander Community](#)

White House. 15 pages. PDF. President Obama made it clear that the most important contest America faces today is not between Democrats and Republicans, but rather our contest with competitors across the globe for the jobs and industries of our time. To win that contest and secure prosperity for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (APIs) and all Americans, we have to out - innovate, out - educate, and out - build the rest of the world and the API community plays an integral part of that plan to win the future.

[U.S. Department of State Celebrates Asian-American Pacific Islander Heritage Month](#) **May 2012**

The Department of State celebrates Asian-Pacific Americans for their remarkable role in United States' development. Asian-Pacific Americans have made great contributions to America's heritage and prosperity. Read about some of the people who work at the State Department.

[U.S. Department of Defense Honors Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month](#) **May 2012**

During the month of May, the Defense Department takes time to recognize and honor the dedicated service and contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, both past and present, through military service in defense of the nation.

FACT SHEETS

[White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders: Key Facts and Figures](#)

[U.S. Census Bureau Facts on the U.S. Asian Population](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA

[Facebook: White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders](#)

[Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders Blog](#)

OTHER WEB RESOURCES

[White House Initiative on Asian American Pacific Islanders](#)

[Library of Congress - Asian Pacific American Heritage Month](#)

Smithsonian Education - Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

The National Register of Historic Places recognizes the Historical Contributions of Asian and Pacific Peoples in the United States

Graphic Novels: Drawing the Asian American Experience



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